

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, above line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 102 42 477.2 filed on September 11, 2002. Applicant also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT/EP2003/009641 filed on AUGUST 30, 2003. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

On the same page, change the first paragraph to read:

--The invention relates to a device for printing one or several objects moving in a feed direction, especially labels, packaging, packaging sections, a band strip or labels stuck on a support band strip, comprising a thermal print head and means for supplying the object to be printed to the thermal print head.--

On page 2, after line 3, please insert the following paragraph:

--US 6,431,773 B1 discloses a device for printing an object movable in a feed direction, comprising a print head and means for supplying the object to the print head. In the exemplary embodiments described the device is constructed as a plotter which has a print head. In this document a thermal print head is also mentioned as a possible design of the print head. The device comprises a frame which defines a work supporting surface and

means for continuously transporting sheet-like work material to be printed in a first coordinate direction running in its longitudinal direction over the work supporting surface. An elongated support with a first and a second end is mounted to the frame and extends transversely over the work supporting surface. The print head is mounted to the support such that it is movable between its first and second ends. A control system in which graphical information is stored gives commands to the device to control the positional relationship of the print head relative to the support and the work material. During operation the combined movement of the print head and work material in accordance with commands issued by the control system causes the print head to print successive lineal portions of a graphic oriented approximately perpendicular to the first coordinate direction.--

On the same page, line 9, to page 3, line 21, cancel all paragraphs and replace by the following paragraph:

--The thermal print head of the device according to the invention is provided with a drive by means of which the thermal print head can be moved parallel to the feed direction of the object to be printed in its feed direction and counter to its feed direction. The drive is assigned a control system which controls it such that during movement parallel to the feed direction of the object the thermal print head has the same speed as the object being moved or a lower speed than the object being moved. Furthermore, the device according to the invention is characterised in that during movement counter to the feed direction of the object the thermal print head is moved at a distance from the object or labels adhering thereto. In this case, means for recording the supply speed of the object to be printed can preferably be provided, which means transmit measuring signals proportional to the supply speed to the control